(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Smuggling of Heroin into India

214. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(i) whether it is a fact that heroin smuggling into India from foreign countries and particularly from Pakistan is on the increase;

(b) what is the quantity of heroin seized during the last three years, year-wise and

(c) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to stop this evil?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. From the quantities of heroin seized during the last three years, as given below, it could be seen that nearly 80% - 90% has emanated from the Near and Middle East, including Pakistan. Bracketed figures indicate the quantities of Golden Crescent origin :

(Quantity in Kilograms)

	1986	1987	1988	1989 (January)
Heroin	2,621 (2,296)	2,747 (2,301)	2,984 (2,433)	540 (528)

Government have launched various aggressive counter-measures which, *inter alia*, include provision of deterrent punishments against drug-traffickers, strengthening of preventive and intelligence machinery (especially around borders and vulnerable areas), adoption of a liberalised reward scheme for officers and informers, strengthening of bilateral co-operation between neighbouring countries (including regional co-operation under the aegis of SAARC). The Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988 provides for preventive detention upto a maximum period of two years for drug-related offenes. 244 persons have so far been detained under the said Act.

Further, the police officers of the North-Eastern States have been entrusted the functions of the Customs Officers under the Customs Act, 1962 for the purpose of the provisions of Chapter IVB of that Act.

An Indo-Pak. Committee to combat drug trafficking and smuggling has also been constituted for the purpose.

The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Amendment) Act, 1988, recently passed by Parliament, *inter alia*, provides for death penalty on second conviction in respect of specified offences involving specified quantities of certain drugs and also forfeiture of property of drug offenders. Besides, all drug-related offences have been made cognizable and non-bailable.

Clandestine Import of Polyester Filament Yarn Plant by Reliance Industries Limited

215. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER: SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a case of clandestine import of polyester filament yarn plant by Reliance Industries Limited, involving crores of rupees has been dropped by the Bombay Customs Collectoratc even though a show cause notice imposing penalty had been issued after an on-the-spot verification of the plant;

(b) whether it is also a fact that on an earlier occasion also Government had decided not to proceed against Reliance